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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1. (canceled)
- 2. (currently amended) The compound of claim 4 23 wherein

Zp is 1,1-dimethylethyl, 1,2-dimethylpropyl, 2,2-dimethylpropyl, 1-hydroxy-2,2-dimethylpropyl, or 1-hydroxy-1,2,2 trimethylpropyl, provided that (L₁), (L₂), (L₃) are all bonds;

Z_F is selected from:

- -C(O)NHMe,
- -C(O)NHEt,
- -C(O)NHOMe,
- -C(O)NHOEt,
- -C(O)NH(iPr),
- -C(O)NH(tBu),
- $-C(O)NH(CF_3),$
- $-C(O)N(Me)_2$,
- -C(O)NMeEt,
- -C(O)NMe(iPr),
- -C(O)NMe(tBu),
- $-C(O)NMe(CF_3),$
- -C(O)N(Me)F,
- -C(O)N(Et)F
- -C(O)N(iPr)F,
- -C(O)N(tBu)F,
- $-C(O)N(Et)_2$, or
- -C(O)NEt(iPr);

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

- 3. (previously presented) The compound of claim 2 wherein Z_F is selected from:
 - -C(O)NHMe,
 - -C(O)NHEt,

- -C(O)NH(iPr),
- -C(O)NH(tBu),
- $-C(O)N(Me)_2$,
- -C(O)NMeEt,
- -C(O)NMe(iPr),
- -C(O)NMe(tBu),
- $-C(O)N(Et)_2$, or
- -C(O)NEt(iPr);

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. (currently amended) A compound according to claim-123, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt-or ester prodrug derivative thereof, represented by formulae A to J as follows:

A)

B)

C)

E)

F)

G)

H)

I)

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J)

K)

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising the compound of claim <u>123</u> together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

7-10. (canceled)

11. (withdrawn, currently amended) A method of treating a mammal to prevent or alleviate the pathological effects of Aene, Actinic keratosis, Alopecia, Alzheimer's disease, Bone maintenance in zero gravity, Bone fracture healing, Breast cancer, Chemoprovention of Cancer, Crohn's disease, Colon cancer, Type I diabetes, Host-graft rejection, Hypercalcemia, Type II diabetes, Leukemia, Multiple sclerosis, Myelodysplastic syndrome, Insufficient sebum secretion, Osteomalacia, Osteoporosis or, Insufficient dermal firmness, Insufficient dermal hydration, Psoriatic arthritis, Prostate cancer, Psoriasis, Renal osteodystrophy, Rheumatoid arthritis, Scleroderma, Skin cancer, Systemic lupus erythematosus, Skin cell damage from Mustard vesicants, Ulcerative colitis, Vitiligo, or Wrinkles; wherein the method comprises administering a pharmaceutically effective amount of at least one compound of claim-123.

12. (withdrawn) The method of claim 11 for the treatment of psoriasis.

13. (withdrawn) The method of claim 11 for the treatment of osteoporosis.

14-15. (canceled)

16. (withdrawn, currently amended) The method of treating or preventing disease states mediated by the Vitamin D receptor, wherein a mammal in need thereof is administered a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Claim-123.

17-22. (canceled)

23. (new) A compound represented by a formula below or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt derivative thereof:

$$Z_p$$
 (L_2) (L_1) R_p (L_2) (L_1) R_p (L_2) $(L$

wherein;

R and R' are independently C₁-C₄ alkyl;

 R_P , $R_{P'}$, and R_F are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_1 - C_4 alkyl;

- (L₁) is oxygen;
- (L_2) is $-C(R40)_2$ -, where each R40 is independently hydrogen, C_1 - C_5 alkyl or C_1 - C_5 fluoroalkyl;
 - (L₃) is $-C(=X_1)$ -, where X_1 is O, S, CH₂, or [H,OH];
 - (L_F) a bond;

Z_F is

where R4 and R5 are independent hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 alkyl, -O- C_1 - C_4 alkyl, C_2 - C_4 alkenyl, C_2 - C_4 alkynyl, C_1 - C_4 haloalkyl, -NH(C_1 - C_4 alkyl), or cyclopropyl, with the proviso that only one of R4 or R5 may be hydrogen;

Z_P is

methyl,

ethyl,

n-propyl,

1-methylethyl,

1-methylpropyl,

2-methylpropyl,

1,1-dimethylethyl,

1,1-dimethylpropyl,

1,2-dimethylpropyl, or

2,2-dimethylpropyl.